

From: Dan Raasch
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:33am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

The Proposed Final Judgment for Microsoft is ludicrously inadequate. Thousands of companies (along with their innovations) have been illegally destroyed by Microsoft's anti-competitive practices in the past, and the PFJ does nothing to remedy this. It also is bereft of foresight and is self-contradictory -- the court defined Microsoft-specific file formats (i.e. Word .doc and other office documents) as barriers to entry, and judged Microsoft a monopoly in part because of this, but the PFJ makes no demands that Microsoft release these file formats so as to let others compete.

Additionally, the PFJ supposedly applies to "Windows", but defines Windows absurdly narrowly. For instance, the PFJ definition of Windows does not apply to Windows XP Tablet PC edition, even though Microsoft is making aggressive moves toward replacing the traditional PC with tablet PCs.

I could go on and on about Microsoft's anti-competitive licensing practices or their attempts to cripple competing software, but these things are all in the court record. The PFJ doesn't significantly limit these practices.

I am writing to you to join in the chorus of people shaming this judgment and demanding a better one.

I also think that when considering these comments, you should give more weight to anti-Microsoft comments than to pro-Microsoft ones, considering Microsoft has a PR machine unlike any other, while Microsoft's destroyed competitors obviously have no PR machine.

Sincerely,

-- Dan Raasch
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